OLD ENGLAND:
OR,
The CONSTITUTIONAL JOURNAL.

By JEFFREY BROADBOTTOM, *of* Covent-Garden, *Esq*;

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To JEFFREY BROADBOTTOM, *Esq*;

SIR,

I Cannot look upon the Coronation Oath in any other Light than as a Marriage Vow made by the Spouse of the People; and tho' Adultery is not expresly guarded against by it, yet it has ever been thought very good Grounds to sue for a Divorce. —— In this Sense I consider the Reigns of our Monarchs as so many political Marriages; some of which have been full of too well grounded Jealousies on the Side of the Wife, and after being fill'd with domestic Confusion, have ended in absolute Seperation. —— In common Life, especially amongst People of Fashion, the Mistress before Marriage is generally discarded by an expres Stipulation; and even a Visit to her would be thought a good Plea for insisting upon a seperate Aliment. ——

The great Queen *Elizabeth*, pursu'd this Metaphor so literally, and was so faithful to her Marriage Vow, that she never pull'd off from her Finger the Ring with which she had wedded her People at her Coronation; and it was actually fil'd off, by her own Order, a little before she dy'd. *My Throne has been the Throne of Kings*, said she, in the Agonies of Death; as if dreading, lest *Old England* might, some time or other, match against her Interest, and below her Dignity.

William the Conqueror, tho' himself the Son of a W——, was compell'd to treat his People as his Wife. His foreign Dominions were so far from being improv'd, that they fell into Decay by his new Acquisition of the Crown of *England*. Nay what will not, perhaps, be believed at this time; our Forefathers were so jealous of suffering their Kings to hold any *foreign* Dominions, tho' born to them, with as good a Title as any *German* Prince is to his E——te, that they suspended the Exercise of the Royal Authority in those Dominions; which Suspension our Kings never would have suffer'd, had they not thought, that the People would not suffer THEIR King to rule over any People independant of *Old England*; as if considering *their* King as their Servant; and that if this Servant had Servants of his own, he would filch from his Masters to supply those Servants, so that in time he might become Master himself. Nay, we find the (a) Parliaments of *Old England* determining Cases of Property, and all other Matters within their King's foreign Dominions; and the wisest, the most powerful, as well as the weakest and most violent of our Kings, glad to comply: (b) And we find upon the Rolls of *our* Parliament, that Committees *here* have been appointed to examine Petitions in *their* Assemblies of *Parliament*.

It was not without Jealousy and Heart-burnings that *Old England* saw *Edward* the IIId. one of her most belov'd Husbands, assume the glorious Title of *King of France*; she could not bear the Thoughts of even the Shew of his dividing his Affections—— The King saw the Storm rising, and knew that it was of the most dangerous Kind, because *brewed in the Hearts of the People*. But he was far from defending or justifying what he had done *without their Consent*, and against their Inclinations, that he call'd a Parliament to account to it, for his Conduct; —— (a) *to satisfy his People it should not be a a Prejudice to the* English *Nation, but greatly to its Advantage and Honour*; declaring at the same time, *that every Thing should be ordered according to the Advice and Approbation of his People.* ——

One of the most glorious and successful Acts of Opposition we find in all the *English* History, was occasion'd by the Partiality shewn by *Henry* the III. in favour of his foreign Dominions. This Prince, who in his Heart, was no *Englishman*, chose and rejected his Ministers, in Proportion as they gratify'd or discourag'd his foreign Affections. It was thought impossible to find out a Crime against the *English* Constitution, which *Hubert de Burgh*, who had been long his first Minister, had not been guilty of; but *Peter* of *Winchester*, a Man of a haughty, insolent, enterprizing Turn, soon convinc'd the World of the contrary. He caught the King by *his ruling Passion*; he bade up to a Price which even his former Minister, wicked as he was, had not the Wickedness to venture at: In short he threw up the Reins to his Masters *foreign Affections*, till they at last carry'd him over the most dangerous Precipices, and overturn'd the Chariot of Government.

The Friends of *Old England* saw her made a Province to a petty, foreign Territory; this begot at first Concern, then Indignation, and they endeavour'd to have Measures alter'd by the dutiful Application of Petitions and Addresses: but the Minister roughly answer'd, (b) *That the King might employ his Foreign, or any other Subjects he pleased, to curb the Insolence of the* English *Party at home.*

This Declaration, which the Violence of the Minister's Temper had extorted from him, alarmed the *English* Party so much, that they refus'd to submit *even to the Judgment of Parliament*, fearing how far a foreign Interest might influence its Resolutions. Accordingly they drew up an Association to stand by one another like Men, (c) *in a Cause*, (to use their own excellent Expression) *which touch'd them even to the Seperation of Soul and Body.* They persisted so resolutely in this Argument, that they rejected three Summonses to Parliament, declaring, *That unless the King would dismiss his evil Counsellors, they would not only refuse to meet in Parliament*, (d) *but drive the King himself, with his wicked Ministers, from the Common Council of the Kingdom, and treat about the Creation of a new King.* At last, with great Difficulty, they came to Parliament, but attended with a Power, which put them above all dread of the Ministerial Resentment, and an Address was drawn up in the Name of the whole House, to be presented to the King as their Judgment; some Extracts out of which I beg Leave to lay before the Public; the rather because no Address ever breath'd more true *Old English* Spirit; and for that Reason perhaps has been omitted by *Rapin*, and our other modern Historians.

(a) " Sir, we cannot from the Duty we owe to you and our Country, avoid acquainting you that the Counsils of your Ministry, which you follow, are neither *sound* nor *safe*, but oppressive and dangerous, both to yourself and the People of *England*."

(b) " In the first Place, they both hate and despise the *English* Nation, calling them *disaffected*, and branding *them all* with that Denomination, thereby estranging *your* Mind from *the Love of your People*, and *our Hearts*, and *those of all true* Englishmen *from you*, as appears in the Case of your (c) Marshal, *one of the best of all your Subjects*, whom they have *ly'd out of your Favour*, and *driven* from your Person."

They then proceed to remonstrate, (d) That by the same Counsils this Kingdom has been brought into a State of Subjection and Tribute, by unnecessarily-protracted Wars. (e) That the same Counsils have squandered the Nation's Money, and lost her a great many brave Men. (f) That they were not Counsils of Peace, but of War and Confusion. (g) That true *Englishmen* would have advis'd him otherwise, and have prevented all the Expence he had been at, to the great Empoverishment of his Kingdom and Revenues. (h) That the same Ministers had engross'd the King's Arms and Courage, as if he ought not to trust his *Eng-*

(a) *Rolls of P.* 33 Ed. I.
(b) 14 Ed. II. *& alibi.*

(a) *Scientes insuper, quod nolumus, nec itentionis nostræ existit, quod ex assumptione nominis & honoris eorundem prejudicutur aut alqualiter deregetur, sed quod idem Regno uberius subveniatur, aut relevetur maturius, illud idem & pro securitate in hac parte, ad dictum Parliamentum, si opus fuerit, ordinabimus, quod juxta Consilium vestram ceterorumque Convocatorum viderimus opportunum.* (14 Ed. III. p. 1. m. 3. Dier. 94.)

(b) *That Prince* (meaning *Charles* the Ist) *had no Revenues, and he had no Army, the present Prince has both;* —— *and he undoubtedly would and could exert them in his own just Defence.* (Faction detected, p. 67.)

(c) *Quæ omnes tangebat usque ad divisionem corporis, & animæ, viriliter decertarent.*

(d) *Sed de Communi Consilio totius Regni, ipsum cum Iniquis suis consiliariis a regno depellerent, & de novo Rege creando contractarent.*

(a) *Domine Rex decimus vobis in domino, ut fideles vestri, quod consilium quodnum habetis & quo utimini non est sanum nec securum, sed crudele & periculosum vobis & regno* Angliæ.

(b) *Imprimis, Quia gentem* Anglicanam *odio habent, & contemnunt, vocantes eos Proditores & faciantes omnes sic vocari, avertentes animum vestrum ab amore gentis vestræ & corda nostra & gentis nostræ a vobis, quod apparet in M—— qui melior Homo est terræ vestræ, quem permendacia interseminata a vobis elongantes perverterunt.*

(c) *Whether he was* Field Marshal *or not is not said.*

(d) *Factum est Regnum tributarium, & inita Guerra & diu protractu.*

(e) *Per idem consilium multum Thesaurum in diversis Bellis & strenuos homines perdidisti.*

(f) *Perturbatio nunc imminens toti Regno periculosa, per eorum consilium iniquum accidenti, quia si per justitiam & rectum judicium terræ tractati fuissent, homines vestri non eveniissent esta perturbatio, & haberetis terras vestras* non *destructas nec thesaurum exhaustum.*

(g) *Concilium vestrum non est pacis, sed perturbationis terræ.*

(h) *Castra vestra, & fortitudinem vestram habent in manu sua, quasi de gente vestra diffidentes beatis.*

liſh Subjects. (a) That in like Manner they had engroſs'd his Exchequer and Revenues, as he would experience to his Coſt. (b) That they excluded his *Engliſh* Subjects from Court; a Conduct which put them under the moſt dreadful Apprehenſions with Regard both to his Crown and Perſon. (c) That they diſregarded both their Vows and Promiſes. They then conclude as follows.

(d) "Thus far we declare; and we adviſe, beſeech, and warn you, before *God* and Man, to remove ſuch Counſellors from about your Perſon, and, as is the Cuſtom in other Countries, employ loyal Natives and true-hearted *Engliſhmen*, or, in other Words, *put Things upon a Broad Bottom.*"

The Hiſtorian tells us, that upon this Addreſs, the King (e) humbly begged for a Truce, till ſuch Time as the Miniſters complain'd of, could make up their Accounts.

In the next Meeting of Parliament, the King diſmiſſed thoſe wicked Miniſters, and recalled about his Perſon *Engliſh Miniſters* with *Engliſh Hearts*, by whom he was in hopes he ſhould be able to bring Matters to the true old *Engliſh* Syſtem.

Now to apply, as *Mat. Prior* ſays, is the Difficulty; for I can't, for my Life, find any Caſe to which the Inſtances from *Engliſh* Hiſtory, given in this and my former Letter, are now applicable: Therefore if my Reader can't find this out for me, I muſt ſubmit to be thought an incorrigible Blockhead: However it muſt be allow'd, that, Applicable, or not Applicable, it is proper to let *Engliſhmen know*, there was a Time, when their Anceſtors would have ſent any **** a Grazing, who ſhould have attempted to render *Old England* a Province to the greateſt Kingdom in the World, but more eſpecially, to a Corner of his own, kept above the State of Beggary only by *Engliſh* Money.

I am Yours,

HUGH BIGOD.

(a) *Saccarium veſtrum & omnes reditus veſtras, & eſcheatas habent in ſua poteſtate.*

(b) *Per idem Conſilium naturales homines de Regno veſtro, de curia veſtra, expulſi ſunt.*

(c) *Non Servant alicui fidem vel juramentum.*

(d) *Hæc autem vobis dicimus, & coram deo hominibus conſulimus, rogamus & monemus, ut tale Conſilium amoveatis a vobis, & ſicut eſt in aliis regnis conſuetudo, regnum veſtrum tractetis per fideles homines veſtros, & juratos de regno veſtro.*

(e) *Rex humiliter poſtulavit inducias.* Mat. Paris, 381, 382, 383, in Temp. Hen. III.

To the AUTHOR *of* OLD ENGLAND.

SIR,

AS you intimated when you firſt appeared in Public as an Author, that you would be glad of every Opportunity of recommending ingenious Performances, however remote from Politics, I can't help putting you in mind of your Promiſe in Favour of *the Military Machines of the Antients*, now exhibited in *Panton ſtreet*. They are, perhaps, the moſt inſtructive Commentaries ever publiſh'd upon the Claſſic Hiſtorians, their Models being not only according to their beſt Deſcriptions, but the moſt perfect Figures in the Antique *Baſs Relievos*, or Sculptures of any Kind. Therefore I hope you will recommend them ſeriouſly, as they tend to the Advancement of Learning, which ought to be of *no Party*; and that you won't indulge yourſelf even in a Sneer upon that Subject, nay not in a Compariſon betwixt them and the *Hanoverian* Artillery; it being too ſerious a Subject for the Proprietor (who has riſqued his Fortune on them) to be ſported with, and I ſhould be ſorry if his not meeting with Encouragement ſhould diſcourage all Attempts of that Kind for the future.

I am, Sir,
your conſtant Reader
and Servant.

BUSBYE, *Jun.*

This Day is publiſh'd,

(Price Two Shillings)

The SECOND EDITION of

A

DEFENCE of the PEOPLE:

OR

Full CONFUTATION of the pretended FACTS advanc'd in a late HUGE, ANGRY *Pamphlet*, call'd

FACTION DETECTED.

In a LETTER to the AUTHOR of that WEIGHTY Performance.

——— *Miſerum Fortuna Sinonem*
Finxit, Vanum etiam Mendacemque Improba finxit.

— *Abandon'd Fellows never value the Shame of being detected, provided they think the Lye will be of ſome Service to them for a Day, or even for an Hour.*

Anſwer to the Remarks upon the *Craftman's* Vindication, *Page* 42.

Printed for J. Robinſon, at the Golden Lyon in Ludgate-ſtreet.

N. B. Whereas there has been a *very* extraordinary Demand for our FOUR Letters of October the 8th, 22d, 29th, and November the 5th, they are now to be had, printed together in 8vo. Price Six Pence.

As alſo our Two Letters of Septemper the 17th and 24th. Price Three Pence, at the Globe in Pater-noſter Row.

This Day is publiſh'd,

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A

FARTHER VINDICATION

OF THE

CASE of the HANOVER TROOPS

In which the Uniform Influence of the HANOVER-RUDDER is clearly detected and expos'd: Being a full Anſwer, founded on Facts and Dates, to a Pamphlet, call'd, *The Intereſt of Great Britain ſteadily purſued.*

Printed for M. Cooper, in Pater-noſter-Row.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

SPAIN.

Madrid, January 6. The Court ſeems to be under the higheſt Concern about the Armament now making at Toulon, which is conſider'd as the very utmoſt Effort of the Two Crowns; in which if they fail, a Peace muſt be procured, upon the beſt Terms that can be had. The Manifeſto lately publiſhed by the Duke de Montemar, has been ſuppreſſed by the King, on account of ſome warm Expreſſions therein, which are injurious to the Memory of M. de Campillo, who is ſtill remember'd with Regret by their Majeſties. The Points which were under Conſideration of two great Miniſters at the Hague, relative to a Peace between this Crown and that of Great Britain, have been conſidered here in Council, and are thought too hard to be accepted. The laſt high Winds having almoſt choaked the Port of Barcelona, by bringing a vaſt Sand Bank near the Mouth of it, Orders have been given for cleanſing it, with the utmoſt Speed, that the Veſſels intended to ſail from thence for the Coaſt of Provence, may not be hindered.

GERMANY.

Vienna, January 15. There never was any Ceremony conducted with greater Order or Magnificence, than the great Ball that was given on the 12th at Court; and indeed all the Rejoicings that have follow'd ſince. We are ſtill employ'd, in making all the neceſſary Preparations for opening, very early, the next Campaign; and all her Majeſty's Miniſters at the Courts of her Allies, have Orders to ſollicit as early an Appearance in the Field as is poſſible; and, in order to ſet a good Example, her Majeſty has ſent preciſe Orders into the Auſtrian Netherlands, for completing the Troops that are to act in Conjunction with the Allies, to 33,000 Men; and Orders have been likewiſe ſent, for haſtening the Reinforcements which are marching to Prince Lobkowitz, in order to enable him to drive the Spaniards into the Kingdom of Naples, before the French can make any Deſcent on the Coaſts of Italy, ſuppoſing that to be the real Intention of their preſent Armament

LOW COUNTRIES.

Amſterdam, Jan. 12. *O. S.* According to the laſt Letters from Venice, dated the 1ſt Inſt. four Men of War detatched from Admiral Matthews's Squadron, and ſeveral Tranſport-Ships, have caſt Anchor off the Port of Ancona, within Sight of the Spaniſh Camp. It's poſitively ſaid, that the Commodore of theſe Ships will make an Embarkation of Troops to attack the Spaniards, at the time that Prince Lobkowitz ſhall attack them on the other Side.

The ſame Letters adviſe, that the Magiſtracy of Health in this City has juſt publiſhed a new Edict, importing rigorous Orders againſt thoſe who ſhall not obſerve with the utmoſt Exactneſs the Quarantine which has been ordered, and this in Conformity to Advices received from Calabria, which ſay, that the Plague ſtill makes great Havock at Meſſina, and other Places in that Neighbourhood.

Liege, Jan. 13. *O. S.* Yeſterday Prince Theodore of Bavaria was unanimouſly elected Biſhop and Prince of Liege, and was immediately after proclaimed in that Quality, to the general Satisfaction of all the Inhabitants. The Elector of Cologn, his Brother, who came to aſſiſt at the Election, ſet out an Hour after to return to Bonn. 'Tis remarkable, that they began to vote about half an Hour after Ten o'Clock in the Morning, and that before Eleven the Election was over, and his Serene Highneſs proclaim'd.

LONDON.

On Saturday laſt was married, at the Charterhouſe Chapel, Edward Sanderſon of Richmond, in the County of Surry, Eſq; to Mrs. Grove of Seething Lane, Relict of the late Mr. George Grove, an eminent Wine Merchant (who had acquir'd an ample Fortune, with much Induſtry and an unblemiſh'd Reputation, the greateſt Part of which he left to his Widow) an agreeable Lady, endowed with every Qualification to render a Conjugal State the moſt happy; which Marriage, we hear, is very remarkable for giving the higheſt Satisfaction to all the Relations of the deceas'd Gentleman.

Private Letters from Hamburgh ſay, that his Imperial Highneſs of Ruſſia is ſo much indiſpoſed, and the bleak Air of Moſcow ſeems ſo little likely to agree with him, that it was thought the Czarina will be prevailed upon, to excuſe his Imperial Highneſs from that Journey.

According to our laſt Advices from Vienna, the Nobility of Hungary have cauſed it to be ſignified to her Majeſty, that they intend to raiſe ſpeedily a new Regiment of Foot, conſiſting of 1800 Men; and that they are deſirous her Majeſty ſhould honour them ſo far, as to declare the Arch-duke Joſeph, Colonel of it.

The ſame Letters ſay, that the Generals Preiſing and Minucci had made ſome Overtures for paying their own Ranſoms; and, that it was believed, as ſoon as they were at Liberty, they would quit the Bavarian Service.

The late Fog at the Hague was ſo thick, between Eleven and One, that they were forced to carry Flambeaux before the Coaches, and the Coachmen were alſo obliged to walk at their Horſes Heads, in order to prevent Accidents.

The Fog was as great at Leyden, where People were, for three Hours, afraid to move, nothing of that Kind having been ever remembered by the oldeſt People in the Town; but Letters from other Places in Holland make no mention of it; ſo that it does not ſeem to have been of great Extent.

Laſt Saturday Morning Capt. Pouroy, of Ed-

monton, loſt Bank Notes, and other Things, out of his Scrutore, to above the Value of 1000l. It is ſuppoſed to have been taken by a Servant, who has ever ſince abſented himſelf.

Monday being the firſt Day of Hiliary Term, the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor, Judges, &c. went with the uſual Solemnity to Weſtminſter Hall.

The ſame Day a Patent paſs'd the Great Seal to Robert Farlington, of London, Merchant, of his new Invention of his Specifick Balſam, call'd the Balſam of Life.

Alſo a Patent paſs'd the Great Seal to Francis Tanner, of St. George's Bloomsbury, in the County of Middleſex, of his new Invention of his Specifick Pill for curing the Gout and Rheumatiſm. Both which are to continue for 14 Years.

We hear that 8000 Forces of Horſe and Foot, will ſpeedily be ſent over to Flanders, in order to reinforce his Majeſty's Army there.

Whitehall, Jan. 21. The King has been pleaſed to order a Conge d'Elire to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, for electing a Biſhop of that See, void by the Death of Dr. Richard Reynolds, late Biſhop thereof; and alſo to name and recommend Dr. John Thomas, Biſhop Elect of St. Aſaph, to be choſen Biſhop of the ſaid See of Lincoln.

The King has been pleaſed to order a Conge d'Elire to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. Aſaph, empowering them to elect a Biſhop of that See, void by the Tranſlation of the Right Rev. Father in God Dr. Iſaac Maddox to the See of Worceſter, notwithſtanding the Election of Dr. John Thomas, now promoted by his Majeſty to the See of Lincoln; and alſo to name and recommend Dr. Samuel Liſle to be elected Biſhop of the ſaid See of St. Aſaph.

The King has been pleaſed to order a Conge d'Elire to the Precentor and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. David, empowering them to elect a Biſhop of that See, the ſame being void by the Tranſlation of the Right Rev. Father in God Dr. Edward Willes, late Biſhop thereof, to the See of Bath and Wells; and alſo to Name and recommend Richard Trevor, Doctor of Laws, to be by them elected Biſhop of the ſaid See of St. David.

Laſt Friday 7 Night a Footman, who was waiting at St. James's, was ſo dangerouſly wounded by a Serjeant of the Guards who was clearing the Way, that 'tis thought he cannot live.

There happened an Affair lately an Madrid, which gave a good deal of Trouble; a Domeſtick belonging to the Venetian Ambaſſador had lent the Marquis de Piquinde a Sum of Money at Play; and having mentioned the Repayment of it to him in the Street, he gave him a Stroke over the Face, and withal abundance of ill Language; adding, that if his Maſter, the little Ambaſſador, had offered him ſuch an Affront, he would treat him in the ſame Manner. All the foreign Miniſters having intereſted themſelves in this Affair, the Court have paſs'd Sentence upon the Marquis, by which he is condemned to Baniſhment for eight Years, and to pay a Fine of 2000 Ducats for the Uſe of the Army.

His Catholick Majeſty has publiſhed an Edict, by which he directs 30,000 new Militia to be levied by the Firſt of April, in order to replace the Regular Troops that are to march from Catalonia, and other Provinces.

Mr. John Collins, a Woolcomber in Huntingdon, was robb'd on the 14th Inſtant, by a ſingle Highwayman, as he was returning from Cambridge, of 126 l. 13 s. 6 d. for which he intends to ſue the Hundred of Cheſterſton, in which he was robb'd.

Laſt Friday 7 Night the Right Hon. the Counteſs of Albermarle, who attended her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Louiſa to Hanover, arriv'd at her Houſe in Groſvenor-ſquare. And laſt Sunday her Ladiſhip waited on his Majeſty and the Princeſſes, and was graciouſly received.

His Majeſty's Ships the Preſton, Medway, Advice, Kinſale, Saphire, Ætna Fireſhip, Lightning, and Terror Bombs, are order'd to be mann'd and victuall'd for the Sea Service with all Expedition.

On Friday 7-Night the Lords of the Admiralty were pleaſed to appoint Chriſtopher Obrien, Eſq; to be Captain of the Royal Sovereign, a Firſt Rate; and Fitzroy Lee, Eſq; to be Captain of the Princeſs Royal, in the room of Capt. Obrien.

Their Lordſhips were likewiſe pleaſed to appoint Capt. Durell to be Captain of the Eltham, a 40 Gun Ship; and Capt. Chadwick to be Captain of the Gibraltar, a 20 Gun Ship, in the room of Capt. Durell.

The Right Hon. the Lord Chief Juſtice Willes has appointed Mr. Richard Bruncker, an Attorney at Law, and Sub-Treaſurer of the Middle-Temple, to be Clerk of the Errors in the Court of Common Pleas, in the room of William Brewſter, Eſq; deceas'd.

We learn by private Letters from Petersburgh, that her Imperial Majeſty has abſolutely fixed the 4th of February for the Day of her Departure for Moſcow, where ſhe intends to reſide till towards next Chriſtmas.

The Poſtillion, Capt. Lightwood, ſail'd from Charles-Town in South-Carolina for the Havanna, with fifty-five Spaniſh Priſoners to be exchang'd.

Advices from Cadiz but too well confirm, that the Plague makes great Havock at Ceuta, and all along the Coaſts of Africk.

They write from Duſſeldorp, that the Elector Palatine is going to iſſue an Edict, whereby all the young Peaſants in his Dominions will be forbid to marry before they have ſerved three Years, either in the regular Forces, or the Milita.

On Sunday laſt her Grace the Dutcheſs of Montroſe was brought to Bed of a dead Child, and lies dangerouſly ill, in Groſvenor-ſtreet.

We hear a Fleet will, in a ſhort Time, rendezvous at Spithead, which will conſiſt of three of 100 Guns, four of 90, ſix of 80, ſix of 70, four of 50, four of 40, and ſix of 20; beſides Bomb Veſſels, Fire-Ships and Tenders.

There happened, on the 17th of laſt Month, a very ſurprizing Phœnomenon at Carthagena, in Old Spain; there appeared, about Five in the Evening, on the Side of the Mountain of Roland, which is ſituated ſome Leagues to the Weſt of that City, a vaſt Stream of Light, reſembling a River of Fire, with a Kind of Fall or Caſcade; which afterwards formed a Sort of Sheet of Fire, extending ſeveral Leagues to the Eaſt, affording ſo bright a Light, that the Eye could ſcarce endure it. There afterwards appeared a great Globe of Fire beneath it, which, in the Space of ſome Minutes, broke into four leſſer Balls, that flew off to the North, South, Eaſt, and Weſt. This Irruption was attended with a Clap of Thunder, ſo loud, that wakened, and even ſtunned, the Inhabitants for ſeveral Leagues round. The four leſſer Balls broke each with a Thunder-Clap, but nothing near ſo loud as the firſt. It was very remarkable, that, during the whole Time of this Appearance, the Sky was perfectly ſerene, and the Stars ſhone very bright.

Tueſday a Patent paſs'd the Great Seal unto Lewis Pantin, of the City of Weſtminſter, Goldſmith, of his new invented Engine for taking up Ballaſt from the Bottom of Rivers, &c. for 14 Years.

Extract from the Paris A-la-main.

There are actually arriv'd at Marſeilles 46 large Veſſels, which carry 16 or 20 Pieces of Cannon each, in order to ſerve for tranſporting the Troops into Italy, in Conjunction with 20 ſmaller Veſſels, which are in Motion on the Coaſts of France.

They write from Montpellier, of the 17th, that the Duke de Richlieu, and M. Le Nain, Intendant of that Province, have been lately at Port Cette, in order to give Directions for putting the Fortifications there into a State of Defence, and to prepare Barracks for the Militia that are to guard the Coaſts; ſome Enemy's Ships having been ſeen hovering at a Diſtance, which has occaſioned great Apprehenſions.

The ſame Letters add, that they had cauſed to be arreſted at Niſmas, ten of the moſt famous Proteſtant Preachers, who have revived their old Practices of Preaching, Praying, Baptizing, and Marrying in the Woods.

Extract of a Letter from Toulon, Jan. 20.

Every Thing is ready for our putting to Sea; we wait only for the Breſt Squadron, which is to join that in our Road, in order to go and attack Admiral Matthews, at the Iſland of Hieres.

M. de Court is to command the Right of the Firſt Line with 10 Ships, M. de Cabret, Commodore, will command the Left with 11; the Spaniards are to be in the Center. The Second Line will be commanded by Meſſieurs de Roqueſeuille and de Camilly, who are alſo Commodores.

Beſides the 18 Veſſels of the Line, that are actually at Breſt, we expect alſo four large Merchant-ſhips from thence, and ſome others from Nantes, which are to ſerve as Tranſports.

M. du Barail, whoſe Squadron has 4000 Fuzils on board, and Victuals for ſix Months, will go firſt to Cadiz, and from thence to the Havanna; in order to put the Iſland of Cuba out of Danger of being inſulted; and we are likewiſe aſſured, that four other Ships are already gone thither for the ſame Purpoſe.

We learn from Francfort, that the Emperor has cauſed to be publiſhed there, and throughout all the great Cities of the Empire, a general Pardon for all Deſerters.

An Extract of a Letter from the Hague, dated January 24.

We are informed by our laſt Advices from Francfort and Berlin, that there is at both thoſe Courts in the Hands of ſome particular People, a political Memorial couched in very ſtrong Terms in the French and German Tongues, which is kept ſo ſecret, that ſeveral in the Miniſtry of each of theſe Courts have not been able to obtain a Copy of it. It's aſſur'd that this Piece has been drawn up by Order of the Courts of Vienna, Mentz, and others of the Empire. Be that however as it will, its manifeſtly prov'd in this Memorial, that his Pruſſian Majeſty, in order to act entirely conformable to his Intereſt, and peaceably to enjoy the Poſſeſſion of Sileſia, ought openly to take the Part of her Majeſty of Hungary againſt France; but nevertheleſs upon Condition, 1ſt, That the Emperor ſhall be acknowledged by that Princeſs as ſupreme Head of the Empire: 2dly, That the Queen of Hungary ſhall reſtore Bavaria to his Imperial Majeſty: 3dly, That the Electors and Princes ſhall arm and act jointly with the Auſtrian Armies, in order to retake Alſace and to give it to the Emperor, and that this laſt mention'd Country ſhall for ever remain a Patrimonium Imperii: 4thly, That the above-mention'd combin'd Armies ſhall continue the War againſt the Crown of France, until the Duchies of Lorrain and Bar are recovered for the Grand Duke of Tuſcany and Upper Burgundy, which is the ſouthern Part of that Province, and all the Diſtricts appertaining to the Dutchy of Luxembourg, for the Queen of Hungary, by way of Indemnification for the Ceſſion ſhe has made of Sileſia. In ſhort, the above Inſtrument proves by undeniable Reaſon, that this Agreement would have ſo ſalutary an Effect, as not only to eſtabliſh a Balance of Power in Europe, and an eternal Repoſe there, but it would ſet Bounds to the ambitious and dangerous Views of France, and would ſtop the Progreſs of that reſtleſs Nation. Scarce had this Memorial any where appeared, before the Emperor found a Copy of it in his Prayer Book, which he read and kept ſecret. His Pruſſian Majeſty has likewiſe had a Copy of it, and has communicated the Contents thereof to no body; and what is pretty extraordinary, but very certain, is, that the Miniſters of France have not been able to get a Copy of this Writing to ſend to their Court.

It was in Conſequence of the Treaty concluded between the Courts of Vienna and Dreſden, and of the Matter contained in the above-mentioned Memorial, that Prince William of Heſſe-Caſſel, at the Deſire of the Emperor and of his Pruſſian Majeſty, went to Berlin, in order to aſſiſt at the drawing up a Plan for re-eſtabliſhing Tranquility in, and effectually defending the Empire.

General Post-Office, London, Jan. 12, 1743.

WHEREAS *the Post Boy carrying the North Mail from Huntington to Stilton, was Yesterday, the* 11th *Instant, about Six of the Clock in the Evening, attacked on the Highway, at a Place call'd Standgate Hole, by a single Highwayman, who presented a Pistol to the Post-boy's Breast, and carried off the following Bags, viz. Durham, Hull, Boston, Falkingham, Lincoln, Harncastle, Louth, Spalding, Stamford, Bourn, and Peterborough. The Person who committed this Robbery is a lusty Man, and had on a large dark Frock over his Coat, his Face was cover'd with Black, and he rode on a dark Sorrel Horse with a white Face, and made off for the Biggleswade Road.*

This therefore is to give Notice, that whoever shall apprehend and convict, or cause to be apprehended and convicted, the Person who committed this Robbery, will be intitled to a Reward of Two Hundred Pounds, over and above the Reward given by Act of Parliament for apprehending of Highwaymen: Or if any Person or Persons, whether Accomplices in the said Robbery, or knowing thereof, shall make a Discovery, whereby the Person who committed the same, may be apprehended, and brought to Justice, such Discoverer or Discoverers will, upon Conviction of the Party, be intitled to the same Reward of Two Hundred Pounds, and also have his Majesty's most gracious Pardon.

By Command of the Post-master General.

George Shelvocke, *Secretary.*

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WHEREAS great EFFORTS have been made by the ENEMIES of the BRITISH LINNEN MANUFACTURE, to bring the Publick into a Dislike of the Scotch Linnens, as if Inferior to those of Holland; this is to inform the Publick, that any Person may be convinced of the contrary by ocular Demonstration, upon comparing both; and that the said Reports are propagated by those whose Interest it is, not only to discourage, but to destroy the British Manufacture, in Favour of the Dutch and German: For it is certain, that the Linnens of the Scotch Manufacture are brought to such Perfection, that a Scotch Holland can be sold this Year at the Scotch Warehouses at Charing-Cross and Cornhill, at 2 s. 6 d. per Yard, that is of a better Fabrick, of as good a Colour, a much more durable Linnen, and equal in Fineness to a Dutch Holland at 3 s. 6 d. per Ell, that these at 3 s. per Yard are preferable to the Dutch 4 s. 2 d. per Ell; these at 4 s. per Yard better than the Dutch at 5 s. 8 d. per Ell; and those of other Prices being in Proportion. It is true indeed, that it is a common Practice among many Retailers, to pass the worst Kind of foreign Linnen on the Publick for Scotch; but if the Buyer will be attentive to his Interest, it is impossible he can be impos'd on, for at the End of every Piece of Scotch Linnen, there is a round Thread that traverses the Breadth, and forms as many Links as there are Hundreds of Threads in the Cloth; this Mark being wrought into the Cloth, and not sewed, cannot be counterfeited.

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